

LIFE OF FUN AND ROMANCE

Humorous Incidents in the Career of the Maine Statesman

(Denver News.)

While Thomas B. Reed was an intrepid raconteur there are hundreds of stories related of the incidents of his life which have been told with illustrative incidents of his career, and which are as interesting as those he was wont to tell. His whole life was a great story of struggle and accomplishment, humor and pathos. Some of the most notable incidents in his career are given in the sketches and anecdotes presented herewith.

Reed is the second really great man Portland has produced. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow was the other, and the two were born on the same spot. The house in which Longfellow was born was torn down many years ago, but the house in which Reed made his appearance still stands and is occupied now, as it was then, as a sort of tenement house for sailors and their families. The Longfellow house stood not thirty feet away, at the corner of Hancock and Middle streets. Then the sea came almost to the door, as Longfellow himself described in his poetry. Now the surroundings are of the humblest. Poor people live in the neighborhood, and the freight yards of the Grand Trunk railway cover the beach where Longfellow played while a boy. One sees plenty of sailors in this district, and also the resorts for sailors characteristic of the port. Reed, of Portland—bottles of ginger ale, savor water and other harmless decoctions in the show windows and peep-holes cut through the front doors. Another coincidence about this spot where Longfellow, the poet, and Reed, the right president, were born, is that the first house in Portland, and its builder was Mr. Reed's ancestor.

A Pretty Story is Spoiled.

"Concerning the manner in which Tom Reed received his education, there once afloat a very pretty and romantic story. It was to the effect that when he left the high school some of the good religious people of the town, convinced that he had a mind for piety and theology, made up a purse with which to send him to Bowdoin. As the tale ran, young Reed's religious convictions suffered a change about this time, and, being too conscientious to accept help from the church in getting his education when he felt he could not give recompense therefor by entering the ministry, he returned the money to the donors. This pretty yarn has had a wide circulation and it seems a pity to spoil it; but, in the interest of the truth of history, it is necessary to give the facts, and the facts are quite as interesting and fully as creditable to Mr. Reed. The pastor of the Congregational church at which Mr. Reed's parents were devout attendants did ask the fat youngster one day if he would not like to go through college, "Tommy," as he was then called, replied that nothing would please him better, but he couldn't for the life of him see where the money was coming from to pay his expenses. This was all that was said at that time, but the minister

at the next meeting of the congregation suggested that he knew a worthy young man, a member of the church, who wanted to go to college, and that perhaps some of the generous brethren would go down in their pockets for sufficient funds to enable the young man to carry out his purpose. There was no unanimous or immediate response to this appeal, and when young Reed heard what the minister had said he sought out that well-meaning gentleman and remarked: "I thank you for your willingness to help me, but you know I could never think of going to college in that way. Let the matter drop right where it is." The matter was dropped right there, but young Reed went to Bowdoin just the same. He earned the money himself by teaching school one winter in Portland and another winter in the country.

"Nothing is so immortal," said Mr. Reed in conversation with a friend recently concerning this story, "as a lie. This particular lie has been going the rounds for fifty or twenty years, and I long ago gave up hopes of ever overtaking it. I suppose some of the good people who were present at the church when the minister made the suggestion in my behalf were afflicted with poor memories, and afterward pressed they had really subscribed the money for my education. You know it is human to forget little details of that sort. I have always thought it particularly hard to have this story thrust at me every year or so, considering the nature of the struggle I did have to get through college with only the money for my education. Another description by the congregation, I never had the slightest notion of asking for or accepting such a thing, and, as a matter of fact, no such subscription was ever made, and, of course, there was no money to return. But when I die I suppose this story of how I was assisted on an education will appear with plenty of embellishments in my obituary."

The Fear of Death.

All through the first part of his college course young Reed devoted a great deal of time to literature, to the neglect of his studies, as he had while in high school. When graduation was but a little more than a year off he realized his conformation that his class standing was very low. He failed to get the class honors which he counted on, and he found that he was extremely unlikely to be one of the sixteen who were to be appointed to deliver English orations on graduation day. To make matters worse, the number was reduced by half. It was clear to the young student that something must be done. His work during the final year of the course must be practically perfect, for his place among those at the top depended on his average class standing all through.

There was but one course open to him if he would win. The romances and poems he loved so well must be laid aside, and he decided to do, and from that time forward until commencement he was up at 5 o'clock in the morning and at 9 o'clock every possible thereafter. By 9 o'clock every

night he was in bed, and tired enough to drop asleep at once. He did not relish this regimen, for by nature he was indolent, and it used to be said of him that he would be somebody some day if he were not so lazy. His plan, however, for he was one of the first five of his class in his average, having passed a dozen men who were ahead of him when he "turned over his new leaf." His oration on "The Fear of Death" won the first prize for English composition. That oration has been described as exceptionally weird in matter and delivery. He said that the year's work which won for him the privilege of delivering it, on that commencement day, thirty-three years ago, was the hardest of his life and the only time he exerted himself up to the limit.

An Easy Examination.

Mr. Reed's school teaching was mingled with the study of law in the office of Howard & Strout of Portland. Before he was admitted to the bar he went to California. He located at San Jose, Judge Wallace, afterwards chief justice of California, there examined him for admission to the bar, and the examination was very brief. It was in 1863, during the war, when the legal tender act was much discussed, especially in California, where a gold basis was still maintained. Judge Wallace, whose office adjoined the one in which young Reed studied, dropped in one day and said to him: "Mr. Reed, I understand you want to be admitted to the bar?"

"Yes, sir."

"Well," said Wallace, "I have one question to ask: Is the legal tender act constitutional?"

"Yes," said Reed.

"You shall be admitted," said Wallace. "Tom Bodley (a deputy sheriff with legal aspirations) was asked the same question today, and he said, 'No.' We will admit you both. Anybody who can answer offhand a question like that ought to practice the law in this country."

A Peculiar Defense.

There is a good story about Tom Reed's first lawsuit. After leaving college Mr. Reed studied law with Judge Howard and Sewell Strout, and then had an attack of the California fever. This was in 1861, and Reed was 22 years old. He went to Stockton and San Jose, and in the latter town finally hung out his shingle. It was there that Mr. Reed tried his first case in court. He was employed to defend Jose Garcia, a Spaniard, charged with "assault with intent to kill and murder." The accused was out on bail, and when the trial came on was practically unable to present any defense. For the simple reason that he had killed his man, and did not know how to lie out of it. The testimony offered by the prosecution made this fact plain enough, "and all I could do," said Mr. Reed once upon a time, "was to offer some evidence concerning my client's previous good character, and then talk. This I did to the best of my ability. I scarcely knew what I was going to say, but while on my feet a happy

thought came to me. 'Admitting, for the sake of argument,' said I to the jury, in my most persuasive way, 'that Jose Garcia did shoot this man, where is the evidence that Jose Garcia is the Jose Garcia now on trial in this court?' I went on to declare that, while the prosecution had offered considerable testimony to the effect that Jose Garcia had done the shooting, it had not in the least particular identified this Jose Garcia with the crime. 'Suppose,' I asked, 'a hundred witnesses were to come into court and swear they had seen Jose Garcia shoot Bill Brown, and then suppose a John Smith was on trial for his life, accused of the crime. Would it not be necessary, gentlemen of the jury, to offer proof that this John Smith was the very John Smith who had committed the crime?' It changed to be an unusually intelligent jury," said Mr. Reed, in conclusion, "and it saw the point very quickly and acquitted my man. This is the way in which I tried and won my first case in court."

Biggest Liar in Maine.

Probably the funniest lawsuit Tom Reed ever had to try came into court in Portland shortly after he returned from his extremely peaceful experiences in the war. He defended a newspaper in an action for libel brought by a citizen of Portland who had been charged with printing and publishing a great big lie in the state of Maine. This was Mr. Reed's first important case at home, and he was naturally eager to win. When he announced his intention of pleading the truth of the charge in justification, his friends, Judge Howard, Sewell Strout and others, told him he was making a great mistake. "You never can justify such a sweeping charge as that," they said, "and if you attempt it you will only print and publish a much greater lie for your client to pay." Reed admitted it was a hard task to prove that any particular man was the biggest liar in a state, but he was determined to establish the reputation of the plaintiff as an habitual and artistic liar. When the evidence was all in, Reed addressed the jury. He told them he believed every one of the jurors would agree with him that they had shown the plaintiff to be as big a liar as any self-respecting state ought to have within its borders, and the onus of producing a bigger liar than this plaintiff, with the consent of the jury, to the fair state of Maine, would have to rest upon the prosecution. This captivated the jury, and from that on the young lawyer had things all his own way. It showed that one of the witnesses had brought out the fact that Colonel Jones, the plaintiff's lawyer, had himself certified on more than one occasion to the plaintiff in a statement to the jury that he was in the course of his argument young Reed frequently made use of such expressions as these: "Twenty-seven witnesses, including Colonel Jones, swear so-and-so." "Eight witnesses, exclusive of Colonel Jones, swear to the contrary." By these means the ambitious young lawyer managed to keep a grin on the faces of the jury from start to finish, and a verdict was promptly rendered for the defense. When this amusing and somewhat celebrated case came to an end young Reed developed one of those characteristics which have marked him from that day to this. "In view of this verdict," he had the pleasure of writing to a number of fellows

he knew throughout the state of Maine, "you ought to thank me for having relieved you of a good deal of suspicion."

Hayes-Tilden Fight.

In Tom Reed's library hangs a framed woodcut from one of the illustrated papers. It depicts the scene in which Reed as chief actor won his first spurs as a member of congress. When Reed first went to Washington to take his seat in the house the Hayes-Tilden presidential election contest was the reigning sensation. A special committee was to be appointed to investigate alleged frauds. That was the Potter committee. Reed was lucky enough to get a place thereon, a considerable honor for a new and unknown man. This good fortune came to him largely because Garfield, Hale and other prominent Republican members of the house did not care for the job. It fell to Reed's lot to examine the witnesses, and the woodcut which hangs in his library shows the Potter committee at work in the basement of the capitol, with Tom Reed examining the famous brought out by Colonel William R. Morrison, contained an appalling arraignment of Republican methods in Louisiana. That was on Friday. On Saturday governor Claflin went to Washington, and meeting Reed, said to him:

"What is the matter down here? I can't find any of our Republican fellows. They all appear to be ashamed of themselves and in hiding."

"Well," coolly remarked Reed, "we will change that."

"What are you going to do?" inquired the governor.

"I am going to cross-examine that witness, and I'll tear him all to pieces," said Reed.

When a number of Republicans heard what the young congressman was going to do they sought him out and remonstrated. They said it would never do to attempt to cross-examine Anderson, for even if a liar that witness was much too smart to be caught at it. "We'll see about that," drawled Reed. "I'll make that fellow trot or jump the harness."

The next Monday Anderson was put on the stand again, and Reed cross-examined him. Probably there never was before or since such a fine example of the high art of roasting a witness. Even the Democratic papers conceded that their witness had gone to pieces, and the Republicans began to come out of their hiding places. As Reed himself says, "I never had so much fun outside of a theatre." This performance established Reed's reputation as a man of shrewdness and nerve, and when the committee was about to go over to New York the Tilden people paid the young congressman from Maine the high compliment of sending a dispatch to Washington reading as follows:

"For God's sake, get that fellow Reed off the committee."

But there was no way of doing this and Reed went over to New York and cross-examined Samuel J. Tilden, Smith Weed, Maxton Marble, Son-in-law Pelton and other distinguished witnesses. He also went to Louisiana and conducted some investigations there.

Reconciled in Death.

Blaine and Reed did not meet before the former's death, but there was real

ly a reconciliation between them. The story of this reconciliation is rather touching. Mr. Blaine's son Emmons, who attended the Minneapolis convention, and knew all about Mr. Reed's generous action concerning the vote of the Maine delegation. When he returned to Washington he reported the facts to his father. While on his deathbed Mr. Blaine said to Mrs. Blaine that he believed he had always misjudged Reed, and that he wished they might be reconciled and become good friends. For some reason, doubtless due to the condition of Mr. Blaine's health, a meeting was never arranged between the two men. After Blaine's death Mrs. Blaine sent word to Mr. Reed that her husband had said he would like to be friends with Reed, and that he wished the speaker to know he bore him no ill-will concerning their past personal and political differences. Mrs. Blaine asked Mr. Reed to act as one of the pallbearers at the funeral of her husband, a request which Reed of course complied with, and in his private conversation he had none but the kindest things to say of the former idol of the Republicans of this state.

Referring to the literary tastes of the statesman who has just passed away, I would know writer and newspaper correspondent recently wrote: "There is a side to Mr. Reed which few people but those who are close to him suspect or know. He is a lover of good novels, these which present human nature in the same rugged, truthful manner in which he holds up to the public the great issues of the day. I should think that Mr. Reed would have about as much respect for a ramby-ramby novel as he has for a wishy-washy politician. Of the English novelists he likes Thackeray best, and Thackeray reached high water mark in Mr. Reed's opinion, in 'Vanity Fair.' In poetry his preference is

for Tennyson, but he is a constant reader of Browning, Holmes, Longfellow and Whittier also.

"Would you mind," he said to me, in talking of the verse makers of the world, "if I descend from these great names and say that I have a great liking for the rhymes of a Kansas lawyer, Eugene F. Ware, who writes over the nom de plume of 'Ironquill'? The following from Mr. Ware's pen greatly pleased his famous admirer:

Once a Kansas zephyr strayed
Where a brass-eyed bull pup played;
And that foolish canine layed
At that zephyr in a gay,
Sense idiote way.
Then the zephyr in about
Half a jiffy took that pup.
Tipped him over wrong side up;
Then it turned him wrong side out,
And it calmly journeyed thence
To a barn and strutting fence.
Moral:
When communities turn loose
Social forces that produce
The disorders of a gale
Act upon a well known law,
Face the breeze, but close your jaw—
It's a rule that will not fail.
If you say it in a way,
Self-sufficient sort of way,
It will land you, without doubt,
Up-side down and wrong side out.

Coughing Spell Caused Death.
"Harry Duckwell, aged 25 years, choked to death early yesterday morning at his home, in the presence of his wife and child. He contracted a slight cold a few days ago and paid but little attention to it. Yesterday morning he was seized with a fit of coughing which continued for some time. His wife sent for a physician, but before he could arrive another coughing spell came on, and Duckwell died from suffocation."—St. Louis Globe-Democrat, Dec. 1, 1901. Ballard's Horsehold Syrup would have saved him. 25c, 50c and \$1.00. At C. M. L. Drug department.

Big 4 Adv. Co., Tel. 1501 K. Signs, all sorts. 64 W. 3rd South.

Removal Sale! Lumber, Cheap!

We have got to move, and to avoid moving and repiling as much of our stock as possible, we are offering our stock of lumber, doors, windows, lath, shingles, cement, tar felt paper, roofing pitch, building paper, nails, builders' hardware at greatly reduced prices for SPOT CASH during the next sixty days. Bring in your bills and get our prices.

PARKER LUMBER CO. Second South and Third West Streets



Christmas Gifts.

Make the heart glad. A useful present is always appreciated by the recipient. We have an elegant and choice assortment of Toilet, Manicure, Shaving and Smoking Sets, Imported Perfumery, Cut Glass Toilet Bottles, Brushes, Combs and Dainty Silverware. A box of Choice Cigars makes a nice present. Come in and look round. We have the goods and prices to suit everyone.

THE OLD RELIABLE
GODBE-PITTS DRUG CO.,
Corner Main and First South St., Salt Lake City.

CHRISTMAS SALE EXTRAORDINARY!

Welcome News for Purse Wise Shoppers.
A Holiday Bargain Event Rivaling Any in Our History.

A Holiday Season is generally regarded as a time when Prices are Advanced. For this sale, however, our Large Assortment of Newest, Up-to-date MILLINERY, CLOAKS, SKIRTS, WAISTS, HOSIERY, UNDERWEAR, GLOVES, Etc., will be marked at FIGURES WHICH MAKE IT AN OBJECT FOR CUSTOMERS to secure not only articles for gifts, but wearing apparel of every sort for their own use at Startling Price Reductions! Economical Reasons Demand Your Presence Here This Week.

50% OFF ON ALL Trimmed Hats.

Two Special Values in Child's Bonnets.

Child's Silk Bonnets, trimmed with fancy silk braid and chiffon ruching; all colors:
\$2.25 quality for..... **\$1.49** \$1.75 quality for..... **\$1.29**
\$2.39 for handsome corded silk bonnets, trimmed in fur, lace and ribbon; all sizes and colors; blue, green, red and brown.

Two Good Values in Cream Silk Bonnets.

Silk Embroidered in six different styles, your choice for..... **\$1.23**

New Monte Carlo Coats.

In black, tan, castor, navy. Latest styles from 25 inch, 27 inch, 30 inch to 44 inch lengths. Large variety at **SPECIAL REDUCTIONS.**

for this Big Holiday Sale. Prices from—
\$6.98, \$9.98, \$12.50, \$13.95, \$17.98 to \$40.00
HANDSOME NEW VELVET BLOUSE JACKETS, with white satin lining for—
\$25.00
Ladies' Black or Castor Long Coat, 42 inches long; value \$15.00, for—
\$6.98

TWO GRAND LEADERS IN Ladies' Nobby Short Jackets.

\$10.00 Jackets in black, castor, navy, for..... **\$5.48**
\$13.00 Jackets in tan, castor, black, navy for..... **\$6.39**

Umbrellas. Umbrellas.

A magnificent stock of fine Umbrellas in very latest styles for LADIES and GENTLEMEN in largest variety at lowest prices in the city from—
98c, \$1.98, \$2.98, \$3.50, \$4.50, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.50, \$8.50, \$9.50, \$10.50, etc.

Fans. Fans.

Grand assortment of handsome styles at lowest prices this week from..... **75c to \$7.50**

Ribbons. Ribbons.

Extraordinary values for the Holiday Sale. All widths and colors, at very low prices.

Holiday Aprons.

at special price advantages for ladies and children.

The Curtis MILLINERY CO.

Children's Dresses.

Ages 12 to 14 Years Only.

Splendid Values at
\$2.00 and \$3.00
Regular Price \$3.50 and \$5.00.

Children's Coats.

Over 200 Children's Coats in ages 6, 8, 10, 12 years, in three-quarter and long coats; navy, red, castor; at special big reductions.

\$4.50 Coats for..... **\$2.98**
\$6.50 Coats for..... **\$4.50**
\$7.50 Coats for..... **\$4.98**
\$8.50 Coats for..... **\$5.98**

Silk Waists.

Our assortment of Silk Waists is very extensive and comprises a grand variety of most beautiful Shirt Waists, Dress and Evening Waists, handsome colors and styles. Prices are greatly reduced from—

\$2.98, 4.98 15.00
Value \$5.00 to \$25.00.

Silk Underskirts.

For Xmas Presents.

The values in Silk Underskirts for this holiday sale are the best offered this season. Our entire stock at special reductions, from—
\$7.50 to 39.00
Value \$12.00 to \$60.00.

Dressing Sacques.

For Xmas Presents.

Our assortment comprises a great variety of styles in EIDERDOWN, SILK OR SATIN. Prices way down, from—
55c, 79c, 98c; \$1.19, \$1.39, \$1.75, \$2.50, \$3.50, \$5.00

Bath Robes.

In red, grey, pink, blue, eiderdown, etc., from—

\$3.59, \$4.98, \$6.50 to \$12.00

Silk Underskirts

At special reductions, in large variety, black and colors, from—

5.98 to 20.00

Special Big Values

Fur Scarfs, Fur Jackets, and Children's Fur Sets,
For Xmas Presents.

\$2.00 Fur Scarfs in black Coney or Imitation Mink, for—
\$1.48
\$3.50 Imitation Stone Marten or Black Marten, for—
\$1.98

All fine Furs, from \$4.50, \$6.00, \$7.50, \$12.50 to \$20.00, at a specially reduced prices for this big holiday sale.

Children's Dresses.

Ages 1 to 5 years, in light or dark colors. Special, from—

98c, \$1.50, \$1.74, \$2.00 to \$2.50.
Values \$1.25 to \$4.00.

Hosiery and Knit Underwear.

Ladies' Ingrain Silk Plated Hose, assorted colors in red, pink, blue, white and black, value \$1.00, for, pair—
89c pair

Ladies' fancy embroidered best Hermsdorf Black Lisle Hose; special for, pair—
63c pair

Fleece lined Union Suits, Melba, gray only; special for, pair—
75c

Ladies' fine Swiss Ribbed Underwear, all wool, crochet silk finish, value \$1.55, for—
\$1.49

Ladies' Black Cashmere Hose, high spliced heel, double sole; special for, pair—
93c pair

Misses' fine Black Cashmere Hose, extra fine; special for, pair—
53c pair

Ladies' extra fine Silk and Wool Vests and Pants, crochet edge neck and front; special for—
\$2.13

Muslin Underwear and Infants' Wear

AT SPECIAL PRICES.

Extra good values in Gowns—
75c to \$6.00

Extra good values in Skirts, Drawers, Corset Covers, etc.—
30c to \$6.00

Our Notion Department

Presents some extra fine values in CHATELAIN BAGS, PURSES, BELTS, FANCY BELT BUCKLES, BREAST-PINS, ETC.

Lunch Cloths, Dresser Scarfs, Doylies, Etc.

LARGE AND HANDSOME ASSORTMENT OF LUNCH CLOTHS, DRESSER SCARFS, DOYLIES, ETC., in fancy drawn work at special low prices.

Christmas Gift Gloves.

GLOVES THAT SATISFY.

When in search of Gloves for Xmas Gifts visit our Glove Department. Our Gloves are well made, wear well and our prices are moderate. Special good values for the Holiday Sale.

Ladies' \$1.00 Kid Gloves in all shades; special value for—
69c

Ladies' BLACK SUEDE GLOVE, \$1.25 quality for, pair—
75c

The "Carlton" Kid Glove, a splendid value; in all shades for, pair—
\$1.50

The "Majestic" Kid Glove, the best kid glove for the money, for, pair—
\$2.00

LADIES' SILK MITTENS, fancy backs; special value for, pair—
\$1.15

LADIES' FANCY WOOL MITTENS; single or double black only, for, pair—
30c

Infants' White Silk and Wool Mittens for, pair—
30c

MISSIE'S KID GLOVES in all sizes and shades for, pair—
\$1.25

Golf Gloves for Ladies and Children. Large variety at lowest prices.

Handkerchiefs.

A great gathering of prettiest, daintiest, worthiest handkerchiefs. All new and all marked at very low prices. Surprising how far a little money will go in this department, and there is handkerchief satisfaction in every purchase. They are here for men, women and children in plain, hemstitched, embroidered or lace trimmed, initial, silk or linen, etc. Prices—

5c, 6c, 8c, 10c, 12c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 35c up to \$3.75

OUR ENTIRE CENTER COUNTERS Filled with a large and elegant stock of HANDSOME XMAS GIFTS

In Latest Novelties. Many useful as well as Ornamental Novelties.